(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be completed; and

(d) the total cost estimated to be incurred on this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. the construction of four flyovers and nine under-passes from Vapi to Kamrej on National Highway-8 in Gujarat have been taken up, out of which three flyovers at Vapi, Galaxy, Dharampur and 9 under-passes have been constructed. The construction work of remaining one flyover at Navasari is in progress and scheduled for completion by March, 2005.

(d) The total estimated cost of 4 flyovers and 9 under passes is approximately Rs. 105 crores.

International container transhipment terminal

2351. SHRI MOTILAL VORA. Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to develop some international container transhipment terminal at some major ports;

(b) if so, the major ports where these international Container transhipment terminals are being set up; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) It has been decided to develop an international Container Transhipment Terminal (ICTT) at Cochin Port. Towards this end, the Government has conveyed its sanction to the proposal of Cochin Port Trust (CoPT) for award of the contract for development and operation of ICTT in Cochin Port on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis to M/s Dubai Port International, Dubai, UAE (EPI) on the 9th September, 2004. CoPT was, *inter alia,* requested to take further action to expeditiously start work on the project. DPI, with whom CoPT took up the matter, requested for certain concessions/facilities which are in addition to what has been provided for in the draft License Agreement which had earlier been finalised after discussions between CoPT and the prospective bidders during pre-bid meetings before submission of the price

bids. A revised Proposal submitted by DPI in the form of a revised draft License Agreement was placed by CoPT before the Board of Trustees (Board) for perusal and appropriate decision. The revised Proposal bids DPI to implement the ICTT project in a time bound manner subject to CoPT fulfilling the Conditions Precedent and obligations on its part as set out in the revised draft License Agreement. The Board of Trustees of CoPT in its meeting held on 25.11.2004 considered the revised Proposal after taking into account various factors including an assessment of the financial implications of the revised Proposal as placed before it and recommended the revised Proposal to the Government of India for final approval. The request of CoPT for Government approval to the acceptance of the revised Proposal submitted by DPI is under process for obtaining the approval of the Competent Authority.

Port Connectivity project

2352. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated action in setting up special purpose vehicles with NHAI equity to develop port connectivity projects;

(b) if so, the progress thereon;

(c) whether bids have been invited for the New Mangalore Port package;

(d) if so, the likely date of awarding of contract;

(e) whether adequate allocations for 2004-05 have been made for four laning works along the NH-17 stretch in Dakshina Kannada linking Surathkal with Kundapura; and

(0 if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The progress thereon is given in the enclosed Statement (see below).

(c) and (d) Bids for civil works for Phase I of the New Mangalore Port Connectivity project for 4 laning of NH-17 (Surathkal-Nartfur section), NH-48 (Padil-Bantwal section) and a bypass from Nantur junction on NH-17 to Padil junction of NH-48 were invited and Letter of Acceptance (LoA) to